

An excerpt from the March 19, 1940, issue of the Tokyo Asahi.

SPEEDY RETURN TO CHINA OF PROPERTY UNDER MILITARY MANAGEMENT IN
IN OCCUPIED AREA

IMPORTANT STATEMENT ISSUED BY SUPREME COMMANDER
OF EXPEDITIONARY FORCE TO CHINA.

Special Cable, NANKING, March 18

On the 18th the Supreme Commander of the Expeditionary force to China officially announced that all plants under military management in the occupied area will be returned to China. This is an exhibition of the spirit of good neighborly relations and mutual assistance, which is regarded as the basis of the Sino-Japanese peace negotiation clarified in Prince Konoye's Statement. And it is understood that on the occasion of the establishment of the central Government of China, Japan has proven, by this statement, that her fixed policy is not that the holy war should be one of aggression against China but rather for the establishment of a lasting peace in the East with the recognition of China's independent sovereignty through the complete collaboration of Japan and China in conformity with the fundamental principle of equality between the two nations. The Army, deeming that, if the property of absentee

Def. Doc. #1325

owners had been left as it was without being put under proper care, heavy losses would have been sustained in the livelihood of the Chinese people and decided to take over the management of the property on behalf of the legal owners, in hope of making contribution toward the economic cooperation between Japan and China and the betterment of the life of the people in general. That is the reason why Chinese property within the war zone was placed under military management. It is also for the same reason that Chinese factories have now been taken from the control of the Army. At the same time it can be said that the administration of Provisional Government in the occupied area, has been a success, and has produced a new order. The process of transferring the management of the plants is outlined as follows :

1. Plants under military management cover mines, manufactories, workshops and all kinds of other industrial establishments. In North China there are 110 of these plants, which are divided into 20 different kinds, and in Central China, 94 plants of 27 kinds; that is, a total of 204 plants. The management of some plants has already been transferred from the hands of the Army. For example, the complete management of the Hwainan mine has been transferred to a newly established Sino-Japanese joint concern. The Minfeng Cotton Mill at Changchow (on the Shanghai-Nanking Railway) has also been returned to its owner, a Chinese.

2. The formal process of the transference is as follows:

First the management of the plants will be removed from the Army to the Provisional Government which will hand it over to the New Central Government.

Then an ordinance will be issued from the Central Government, requesting the legal owners of the plants to claim them. For the purpose of making investigations and assessments of the damage caused by the war and the investments made during the time of the military management and other matters, a managing committee will be formed by the managers, the Japanese Government, the Expeditionary Army, and those concerned with the management and operation of the factories.

3. Most of the transferred plants will be put under Sino-Japanese joint management so as to bring about economic cooperation.

4. Some plants, which are especially necessary for military purpose will remain as they are for the time being.

5. As for the rights and interests of third powers, adequate measures, such as joint management, compensation, loan or restitution, will be taken according to the circumstances. In case rights and interests of third powers should be attributed to any transferred property with the intention of avoiding cooperation with Japan, it would be a matter of course that efforts should be made to make the cooperation of the two countries practically effective in accordance with the aim of the military management.

6. All plants under military management will not be transferred at once, but one after another as soon as preparation for transfer has been made. So it may require a fair time before all the plants have been transferred.

7. Property which belongs to enemy or absentee owners will be properly disposed of after it has been transferred directly to the management of the new Government. It is, however, a matter of course that as

Def. Doc. 41325

for the investments made in enemy property a proper compensation should be recognized.

Thus amidst hostilities the property under military management has been transferred to the Chinese authorities through a sense of moral obligation. This is really unprecedented in history and will surely be effective in enlightening the mind of the anti-Japanese party at Chungking who are taking all possible steps to distort the ideal of the establishment of the New Order in East Asia, and at the same time will cause the whole Chinese nation deeply to appreciate the fairness of the attitude of our Government. Those Japanese who are concerned in this are taking the broad point of view and are also endeavoring to bring about the principle of live-and-let-live with the complete cooperation of Japan and China.

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHENTICITY

I, who occupy the post of the Vice-Chief of the Archives
Section in the AS.HI Press, hereby certify that the document
hereto attached, written in Japanese, consisting of 3 pages and
entitled "PROPERTY UNDER MILITARY MANAGEMENT IN OCCUPIED AREA AGAIN
IN HANDS OF CHINA" is a copy of a report on our newspaper issued
on March 19, 1940.

Certified at Tokyo, (The Head Office of the AS.HI Press,
No.3, Sanchocho, Yurakucho, Chiyodaku)

on this 28 day of March, 1947

/S/ KISHI, Katsumi (seal)

I hereby certify that the above signature and seal were affixed
hereto in the presence of the Witness.

at the same place, on the same date

Witness: /S/ IMANARI, Yasutaro (seal)

TRANSLATION CERTIFICATE

I, William E. Clarke, of the Defense Language Branch, hereby
certify that the foregoing translation described in the above
certificate is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, a correct
translation and is as near as possible to the meaning of the
original document.

/S/ William E. Clarke

Tokyo, Japan
Date 16 April 1947

昭和十五年三月十九日東京朝日新聞記事

占據地才軍管理財產速カニ支那側ニ返還

支那派遣軍
司令官 重大聲明ヲ發表

「南京電十八日發」

支那派遣軍總司令官ハ十八日ワガ占領地域内ニアル軍管理工場全部ヲ暴ゲテ支那側ニ返還スル旨ノ聲明ヲ發表シタ。

右ハ近衛聲明ニ於イテ闡明サレタ日支和平交渉ノ基本トサレタ善隣友好互助連環ノ精神ニ則ツタモノデアツテ聖戰ノ目的ガ支那侵略ニ非ズ支那ノ獨立主權ヲ認メ日支平等ノ原則ニ立ツテ相提携合作シ東亞永遠ノ平和ヲ確立セントスルニアリト帝國不動ノ方針ガ新中央政府樹立ニ當ツテ具體的實施ニ移サレタモノデアアル、事變勃發以來軍作戦地域内ニオイテ支那側財產ヲ軍管理ノ下ニ置イタ所以ノモノハ軍ガ不在者財產ニ對シ適當ナル處置ヲナサズ荒廢ノママニ放置スレバ支那民衆ノ生活ニ甚大ナ打撃ヲアタヘル事ヲウレヘ、ソノ正當ナル所有者ニ代ツテ管理經營將來ニ於ケル日支經濟提

勞民衆生活ヘノ寄與ヲ期シタモノデアル。今回コノ管理ヲ解イタノモ同様ノ精神ニ基イタモノデアツテ同時ニワガ占領地域内ニオイテ臨時維新兩政府ノ治績アガリ新シイ秩序ノ形成サレタ事ヲ物語ルモノデアル。管理委員ノ方法ハ大要左ノ如クデアル。

一 軍管理工場ハ鑛山工場事業場等アラユル種類ノ産業ニ互ツテイルガ北支ニ於イテハ二十種百十ヶ所中支ニ於テハ二十七種九十四ヶ所合計二百四ヶ所ノ多數ニ上ツテ居ル。コノウチ既ニ軍管理ヲ解除シタモノアリ例ヘバ海南炭坑ハ日支合併會社ヲ設立シテソノ業務全部ヲ移管シ又常州（海南沿線）ノ民豐鑛工場ハ支那側個人ノ所有者ニ返還サレテ居ル。

二 移讓ノ形式ハ先ヅ軍ヨリ臨時維新兩政府ニ移管シ兩政府ハコレヲ新中央政府ニ引繼ギ新中央政府ハ布告ヲ發シテ正當ナル管理者ノ申出ヲ求ム、支那側政府派遣軍並ニ管理經營關係者ヲ以テ管理委員會ヲ組織シ競争ニヨル毀損部分管理中ノ出資其ノ他ニツキ調査査定ヲ行フ。

三 移管工場ハ概ネ日支合併ノ會社組織トシ經濟提携ノ實チアゲル方針デア
ル。

Key No. #1325

四 軍事上特に必要ナルモノ若干ハ當分現狀ノママトスル。

五 第三國權益ニ關係セルモノニツイテハ適宜合併賠償貸借返還等ノ處置ヲ講ズル、尙返還財産ニツキ日本トノ提携ヲ避ケルタメ新ニ第三國權益ヲ設定セントスルモノニツイテハ軍管理ノ豫官ニ即シ、アクマデ日支援拂ノ實チアグベク支部ニオイテ努力サルベキハ當然デアル。

六 移管ハ軍管理全部ニツキ一齊ニ行ハルルモノデハナク各事業個々ニツキ移管ノ準備ガ完了次第漸チ進ヒ行ハルルモノデアツテ全部ノ移管完了マデニハ相當ノ時日ヲ要スルモノト認メフレル。

七 敵產或ハ不在者財産ニツイテハ一躍新政府ノ管理ニ移管サレタ後適宜ノ處理ヲ講ズルモ日本側ガ敵財産ニツイテ投下セル資本ニツイテハソノ保護ガ認メラレルベキハ當然デアル。

以上ノ如ク道義的精神ヲ以テ所行サレタ軍管理財産ノ支那側委譲ガ作戦繼續中ニオイテ決定サレタ事ハ世界ニオイテ會テソノ例ヲ見ナイモノデアリ高潔ナル帝國ノ事變處理方針ヲ示スモノデアツテアクマデワガ東亞新秩序建設ノ通牒ヲ執ヒントスル重要抗日派ニ對シソノ蒙チ啓クモノデアリ全支

Ref. No. # 1325

民衆ニ對シテモ帝國ノ公正ナル態度ヲ深ク嚮取セシムルモノトサレ日本
側關係者ニオイテモアクマデ大乗的見地ニ立チ日支相提携シ共存共榮ノ
實ヲアゲントシテ居ル。

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岸 亮 己

右署名捺印ハ私ノ面前ニ於テナサレタルモノナルコトヲ證明ス

同日 於 同 所

立會人 今 成 泰 太 郎